

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 00091 141554Z
ACTION CU-04

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 /017 W
-----142121Z 043996 /72

R 141422Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2236
USIA WASHDC

UNCLAS SOFIA 0091

BUCHAREST FOR PAO FROM JAMES AUGEROT
STATE FOR CU/EE
USIA FOR IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SCUL, BU
SUBJECT: WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY TOEFL PROPOSAL

REF: A. BUCHAREST 0055, B. STATE 310724

1. IN DISCUSSIONS WITH MEMBERS OF THE BUCHAREST FOREIGN LANGUAGE CENTER OVER THE LAST THREE YEARS IT SEEMS THAT A POTENTIAL MUTUAL BENEFIT MAY RESULT FROM AN ARRANGEMENT WHERE M.A. DEGREE CANDIDATES IN TOEFL AND LINGUISTICS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WOULD TEACH INTENSIVELY FOR SHORT PERIODS IN THE ADULT ENGLISH CLASSES OFFERED BY THE BFLC. THIS INTERNSHIP WOULD BE IDEAL BOTH IN TERMS OF TIME (OUR ACADEMIC QUARTERS CORRESPOND TO THE 90 DAY COURSES) AND IN TERMS OF VITAL EXPERIENCE WITH ADULT LEARNERS BEGINNING VIRTUALLY FROM SCRATCH. THE U.W. CANDIDATES WOULD BE REQUIRED TO HAVE FINISHED MOST ALL OF THEIR REQUIREMENTS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE PROGRAM. THESE STUDENTS NORMALLY HAVE HAD SOME MINOR TEACHING EXPERIENCE ALREADY, BUT WOULD BENEFIT ENORMOUSLY FROM PARTICIPATION IN A CHALLENGING PROGRAM FROM BEGINNING TO END. THE BFLC ENGLISH PROGRAM WOULD BENEFIT AS WELL FROM ENTHUSIASTIC SPECIALISTS WITH NATIVE
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ABILITY IN THE LANGUAGE.

2. I UNDERSTAND THAT DEAN DUMITRU CHITORAN IS INTERESTED IN THIS PROPOSAL, BUT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN BROACHED WITH THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION. IT SEEMS PROBABLE THAT THIS WOULD BE AN EFFECTIVE AND ECONOMIC WAY TO USE ONE OF THE SEVERAL LECTURESHIPS NOW OPEN UNDER THE ROMANIAN-AMERICAN CULTURAL

AGREEMENT. THE ROMANIAN SIDE WOULD BE RESPONSIBLE FOR HOUSING AND A SALARY FOR A FULL-TIME TEACHER. THE DEPARTMENT HAS INDICATED THAT TRANSPORTATION WOULD BE PROVIDED FROM U.S. SIDE. DUE TO SHORT PERIOD AND PEDAGOGICAL NATURE OF PROGRAM NO DOLLAR SUPPLEMENT WOULD SEEM NECESSARY. A JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE LINGUISTICS DEPARTMENT AND THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION UNDER THE AEGIS OF THE COUNCIL ON LANGUAGE LEARNING AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON WOULD PROVIDE A SCREENING COMMITTEE AND SECRETARIAL ASSISTANCE FOR THE PROGRAM.

3. REQUEST EMBASSY BUCHAREST MAKE INITIAL CONTACTS WITH MINISTRY OF EDUCATION IN THIS MATTER. IF THE MINISTRY WISHES TO DISCUSS THIS FURTHER AND WILL SEND ME THE APPROPRIATE INVITATION FOR VISA PURPOSES, I CAN COME TO BUCHAREST FROM SOFIA IN LATE FEBRUARY FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION. HOPEFULLY THE DEPARTMENT WILL COVER MY TRAVEL COSTS. MEANWHILE, I WILL CONTACT PROFESSOR VICTOR HANZELI, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON COUNCIL ON LANGUAGE LEARNING, WHO WILL HANDLE LOCAL ARRANGEMENT AT UNIVERSITY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATION, CULTURAL EXCHANGE AGREEMENTS, ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING, STUDENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977SOFIA00091
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770015-0311
Format: TEL
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770150/aaaabrwc.tel
Line Count: 83
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 9b3971d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BUCHAREST 55, 77 STATE 310724
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3595350
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY TOEFL PROPOSAL
TAGS: SCUL, BU, US, WASHINGTON UNIV
To: BUCHAREST
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/9b3971d9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009